

**NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN INCREASE IN THE STATE AND LOCAL
PROGRAMS APPROPRIATION OF THE
U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S BUDGET
RESOLUTION OF OCTOBER 9, 2007**

WHEREAS, The United States Congress is currently considering appropriations for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for the 2008 federal fiscal year, which runs from October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Congress appropriates certain funds for EEOC's general operations and a separate amount for operation of its State and Local Programs, which amount is to fund the work-sharing agreements between the EEOC and local, county and state Fair Employment Practices Agencies (FEPAs) around the nation; and

WHEREAS, in the process of appropriating funds for federal fiscal year 2008, Congress is considering an appropriation of only \$28 million in funding for FEPAs while at the same time a record-breaking \$378 million for the EEOC's operating budget; and

WHEREAS, State and Local Enforcement Agencies, known as Fair Employment Practices Agencies (FEPAs), handle 40 percent of the total caseload for the EEOC nationwide, yet these FEPA's have had their budgets severely eliminated for years resulting in continued employment discrimination; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights is a FEPA that maintains a work-sharing agreement with the EEOC to investigate and eliminate unlawful employment discrimination in this jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights as a FEPA needs these critical funds in order to protect fair employment opportunities for people in our jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the federal fiscal year 2008 begins October 1, 2007;

NOW, ON THIS 9 day of October, 2007;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights hereby supports the re-appropriation of \$5 million from the EEOC's projected \$378 million operating budget to the FEPA budget so that our State and local agencies can better assist in combating employment discrimination; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT if the FEPA budget is approved in the amount of \$33 million, FEPA's will be able to much more effectively eliminate job bias and discrimination throughout the nation, resulting in increased equal employment opportunity for New Jerseyans.